

The first American wounded in Bosnia was also the victim of a landmine. Another American lost part of his foot from a mine. Three British soldiers were among those killed by landmines.

In the 3 years that the United Nations force was there, 204 U.N. soldiers were injured by mines, and 25 died. As the snow melts and the ground thaws, there will be more landmine casualties.

Since 1990 when the war started, thousands of civilians have been injured and killed by landmines, and they will continue to suffer casualties long after the NATO troops leave. The Army's advice is "if it's not paved, don't step on it." That's great. That means that 99 percent of the land in Bosnia is too dangerous to walk on. The landmines in Bosnia, like many other countries, will be cleared an arm and a leg and a life at a time for generations.

Mr. President, I have spoken often on this subject and I will continue to do so. Today I want to make just one point.

If there ever was an opportunity for American leadership to make the world a safer place, this is it. On February 12, President Clinton—and I applaud him for it—signed the foreign operations bill which contains my amendment to halt, for 1 year, U.S. use of anti-personnel landmines.

Some in the Pentagon have complained that since they use landmines responsibly they should not have to stop using them.

Mr. President, no one is more proud than I am of our Armed Forces. Our men and women in uniform, whether they are in Bosnia, Korea, or here in Washington, make every American proud for what they stand for, and their unmatched professionalism. I have voted for just about every defense appropriations bill since I came to the U.S. Senate.

If I thought for a minute that getting rid of anti-personnel landmines would put our troops or our national security in jeopardy, I would not be speaking here today. On the contrary, I believe we have far more to gain. Anti-personnel landmines cannot be justified on military grounds or on moral grounds.

I have received calls and letters from combat veterans from every part of this country who experienced the horrors of landmines, and who agree with me that they made their job more dangerous, not safer. Some were wounded by mines. Some saw troops under their command killed by mines, even by their own minefields when the battle changed direction.

I know landmines have some military use. But consider the cost. Over 24,000 Americans were injured or killed by mines in World War II. There were over 2,400 recorded landmine casualties in Korea, and over 7,400 in Vietnam. Twenty-one Americans died in the Persian Gulf from mines—20 percent of all our casualties there. Twenty-six percent of our casualties in Somalia were from mines.

No matter how or what type of landmines are used, they are indiscriminate. They are triggered by the victim, and usually it is a civilian. Our mines, and the mines of countless other nations, are killing and maiming hundreds of innocent people each week.

Mr. President, we have a tremendous opportunity. The law signed by the President will halt, in 3 years, our use of anti-personnel landmines except in very limited areas. We will not be alone. Canada and Belgium have unilaterally halted their production, use, and export of these weapons, and 20 other nations have declared support for an immediate, total ban.

During the next 3 years, we can lead other nations to join with us in repudiating this weapon. If the Congress, the President, the Vice President, the Secretary of Defense, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, the Secretary of State, our U.N. Ambassador, all our Ambassadors in posts around the world—if we all speak loudly and with one voice, the message will be heard.

Mr. President, a recent Washington Post article entitled "A Global Bid To Ban Landmines," described how the Serbs used minefields in their campaign of ethnic cleansing, by forcing their Moslem captives to walk through minefields, triggering the mines.

That many sound appalling, and it is. But it is little different from what millions of people are forced to do each day, in countries where survival means tilling the land, and the land is a minefield.

So Mr. President, we remember Sgt. Donald Dugan for his sacrifice for peace in Bosnia. Let us also remember him by renouncing these cowardly weapons that have claimed the lives of so many innocent people.

BOMBINGS IN ISRAEL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, each one of us has been horrified at what we have seen on our television sets with the tragedies in Israel. I was at my home and reading the recent account—what I thought was the most recent account of bombing in Israel—when I got a call from somebody in my office who started referring to the terrible bombing in Israel. I said, "I am reading about it right now." He said, "No; not the one that is in this morning's paper, the one that happened within the last few minutes."

The shock that fell on everybody in my office, on everybody in my family, and on the family members of those in my office—one of whom lives with his wife and daughter in Israel.

I believe that we are witnessing a determined, relentless suicidal attempt to destroy the peace process in the Middle East. It may be predictable. We have seen these attempts before. Fanatical extremists have tried time and again to intimidate and destroy the forces for peace; unfortunately, on both sides. But so far they have failed.

I think that Israel today faces its greatest challenge with the handshake

on the White House lawn. When Prime Minister Rabin was assassinated by a Jewish fanatic I thought we had reached the low point. But the situation has only deteriorated since then. At least 60 people, innocent civilians, have been killed in the past 9 days alone. The people responsible in an almost obscene perversion seem to take pride in claiming responsibility for the slaughter of men, women, and children.

So our sympathies—and I believe this can be said of all Americans—and our prayers are with the victims and their families.

The White House has said that they will provide counterterrorism assistance to Israel, and the Palestinian authority—and the Congress, of course—is going to support whatever can be done to stop these atrocities. But we know there are no guarantees. If someone is prepared to sacrifice his life to commit murder, there are real limits on what we can do to prevent that.

Prime Minister Peres has said he will take all necessary steps to fight back. He has no alternative. To stand by and not do whatever he can would be inconceivable, and I know the Prime Minister's determination is to do all that is possible that he, his government, and his great country can do.

Chairman Arafat has condemned the attacks and has pledged to fight back, as he should have done long, long ago. He should be taking all necessary measures to track these people down and stop them before they strike again. Those who would urge Prime Minister Peres to turn his back on the peace process should also understand that is exactly what the terrorists want. They want the war to go on because they know that if peace prevails—as we all pray it will—then they lose.

Real opportunities for peace come rarely. It took great courage and years of patient work to get to this point. Prime Minister Rabin gave his life for it, as have dozens of others. There is no other way than to search and continue searching for peace.

So I express my sorrow and my horror at what has happened to this brave country. I hope that now steps can be taken to stop terrorists from striking again and stop those who would plan even more terrorism but also let the peace process go forward.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

I thank the Senator from Vermont for his eloquence. We come to the Senate floor all too often to talk about tragedy and needless loss of life. The Senator talked about the tragedy in Israel; needless tragedy. We see it in England. We see it here at home. We saw it in Oklahoma City, in New York City. Terrorism must be—and will be—

stopped because people in this world want peace, and they want life as they choose to live in peace.

Tragedy also comes too often in the course of our lives here in America in our hectic life. I am here to talk about one such tragedy that occurred in California.

BRIAN OHLEYER

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute to a young man named Brian Ohleyer, who was killed yesterday in a tragic automobile accident in northern California. Brian was in his twenties. He was a light in every life that he touched, in every community that he was a part of, in every school that he went to, and in every job he had. And he brought light to my life. He was my friend.

Brian's future was as bright as you could imagine—a wife, Elle, whom he adored; a career that he loved; a mom and dad, brother and sister, nephews and nieces whom he treasured, which made up the happiest and warmest of families. Brian was blessed, and he blessed everyone that he touched.

And then came yesterday, a truck crashing into all his dreams and the dreams of everyone who loved him. The news was like a stab in the heart. News like this strikes too many Americans. And when it happens, we have to reach out to one another. In the days ahead, we will reach out to this family.

I talked to Michael Luckhoff, the general manager of KGO Radio in San Francisco, Brian's employer. He said Brian was a shining star, a wonderful, polite young man—a superstar, he said. He said he was the future, a gem among gems, liked by everyone, a pacesetter, a breath of fresh air.

I am here to say that when we lose someone like this, all we can do is pray that this tragedy does not happen to anyone we love. All we can do is remember the best and brightest memories. And what I am going to do, because this young man was a model of what a young person should be, full of life and expectation, playing by the rules, just the best, I am going to name my internship program after Brian, and all the interns that come in my office will learn about him and they will be Brian Ohleyer interns. Maybe in that small way I can do my part in keeping his spirit alive.

I thank the Chair. I yield the floor.

Mr. FEINGOLD addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin is recognized.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I thank the Chair.

I am moved by the remarks of the junior Senator from California. Let me follow with just a few remarks about recent events in the Middle East.

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS

Mr. FEINGOLD. On September 13, 1993, the world watched with hope and fear when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader

Yasser Arafat signed the Declaration of Principles on the White House lawn and began a new era in the Middle East. As much as we hoped there would be an end to terrorism, bloodshed, and occupation, I think just about everyone knew the road to peace would not be that simple.

We had reason to cheer though because now the battle lines would be drawn differently. Rather than Arab versus Jew, the peace process created a new alliance, moderate versus extremism, where Israelis, Palestinians, and others were joined to pursue a peaceful and prosperous Middle East.

While there were some very tenuous periods during 1994—continued terrorist attacks, such as the disastrous bombing in the center of Tel Aviv, and the bomb attack in Beit Leid where over 20 soldiers were killed, the massacre of 28 Palestinians in Hebron by an extremist Israeli named Baruch Goldstein—nonetheless, Mr. President, the peace process was progressing. By late 1995, in fact, it seemed relations between Arafat and Rabin were warming.

Israelis themselves, Mr. President, were becoming more confident that this was the path to take. On November 4, 1995, 150,000 Israeli supporters attended a Tel Aviv peace rally to demonstrate their depth of commitment to the peace process.

Then, of course, as we all sadly know, extremism struck again. This time a Jewish radical gunned down Prime Minister Rabin in an effort, of course, to kill the peace process.

I think it is important to note that this, too, was a terrorist attack, an attack in the vein of a new Middle East where extremism and violence of any stripe lashes out against any sign of peace and tolerance.

Of course, with the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, the world lost one of its great leaders and great men. He possessed so many attributes that made him an extraordinary figure. As a soldier, he helped build Israel, and as Prime Minister, he paved the way for a peace that can only come from Israel's strengths. With this, he earned the trust and confidence of Israelis who knew that Rabin would not take risks for peace that outweighed the dangers of continued war.

He recognized the day had passed when one people in the Middle East can really think seriously about dominating another people; when most Israelis, Palestinians, Jordanians, and others saw that they must co-exist if there is to be any security or prosperity in the region.

Rabin put his full weight behind the peace process as the only way to protect Israel's security. His achievements were illustrated again, sadly, during the funeral, an event that in itself helped solidify the process the assassin had tried to stop. The huge United States delegation, which I was fortunate to be part of, testified to the depth of support that the United States

has and will offer Israel. The fact that President Mubarak and King Hussein not only set foot in Jerusalem but also eulogized Prime Minister Rabin at his funeral spoke to the commitment for peace with a strong Israel. The more than 40 heads of State and representatives from over 80 countries who were there also signaled international investment in the peace process as well as the tremendous personal tribute to Rabin that it represented.

I think Prime Minister Peres has been equally determined in this quest. He has continued implementation of the Oslo II Agreement, expanded relations with Jordan, pursued preliminary peace talks with Syria and he has also cemented ties with other countries.

We had hoped that the extremists in the Middle East would have been weakened. But as their ranks have been withering, their hatred was intensifying. Israel, with some cooperation from Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, has continued its war against terrorism, and it is widely assumed that that led to the January assassination of the engineer, the so-called engineer, Yahya Ayash, the Hamas technician who masterminded the bus explosions in Israel.

Mr. President, in the last 9 days, we all know we have seen 4 devastating bombs, all delivered by fanatics on a suicide mission, explode during commuter rush hours in urban centers in Israel, murdering at least 59 people and injuring many more. The horrific images we see on television cannot even compare with the terror any Israeli must now feel when they get on a bus to go to work, pick up their shopping, send their kids to school. This is a real source of insecurity and pandemonium in Israel now.

What makes this problem so challenging is how does Israel stop a suicide bomber? There are young Hamas supporters who are willing to blow themselves up as long as they can take a few Israelis with them. At first they said the attacks were in retaliation for the killing of the engineer. Now it is because of Israel's announced war on Hamas. It is really a war against any kind of Western or modern presence in the Middle East and against the peace process. Prime Minister Peres has responded forcefully and decisively. He has pledged that Israel will take all measures necessary to fight the war against terrorism. Last night, they arrested a man from Ramallah who they believe orchestrated three of the last four attacks. A strict closure, a drastic effort to fully separate Israelis and Palestinians, will be in effect, I expect, until the election at the end of May.

I am also very proud of President Clinton's efforts and commitments to crack down on the supporters of terrorists. I feel confident the United States will continue to support Israel, be it through strict enforcement of the ban on contributions to Hamas or through more intelligence sharing with Israel to avert would-be attacks, or whatever. But the next steps are really with the